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Coverage

United Kingdom

Theme

Population and Migration

UK parliamentary constituency profile available from Census

Detailed information about every parliamentary constituency in the UK is now publicly available following the latest release of data from the 2001 Census.

The Report for Parliamentary Constituencies* combines detailed information from the three Censuses in England & Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland. It presents a whole range of valuable data for all of the UK Parliament's 659 constituencies.

These new data have been published today in the form of a report with accompanying CD and are also available on the ONS's Neighbourhood Statistics Service, which provides immediate access to census information for local authorities and wards, as part of a wealth of local area information on the internet.

The paper report contains profiles of more than 20 characteristics of specific interest to MPs and their electorate, including the percentage of the population of voting age, numbers travelling to work by public transport, and ethnic and religious composition.

The accompanying CD presents statistics from all the Census questions. Key Statistics have already been published for local authorities in England & Wales on 13 February and for electoral wards and smaller local areas on 30 June. This release provides a comprehensive picture of those resident in each UK parliamentary constituency.

Issued by
National Statistics
1 Drummond Gate
London SW1V 2QQ

Telephone
Press Office 020 7533 5702
Email press.office@ons.gov.uk
Public Enquiries 0845 601 3034

Scotland
Garnett Compton 0131 314 4298

Northern Ireland
Ann Williamson 02890 527374

Internet
www.statistics.gov.uk/releases

***Census 2001: Report for Parliamentary Constituencies**
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Available free on the National Statistics website:

www.statistics.gov.uk/statbase/Product.asp?vlnk=10725

More detailed parliamentary constituency data are available at:
www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk/



The range of information includes:

18 years and over – The constituencies with the highest proportions of people aged 18 and over tend to be in urban centres. The constituencies with the highest percentage of people of voting age in the UK are Edinburgh Central (88.6 per cent), Cities of London and Westminster (87.9 per cent), Glasgow Kelvin (87.1 per cent), Aberdeen Central (86.6 per cent), and Kensington and Chelsea in London (85.2 per cent).

The constituencies with the lowest proportions of voters aged 18 and over are Birmingham Sparkbrook and Small Heath (65.6 per cent), Belfast West (67.6 per cent), Foyle in Northern Ireland (69.4 per cent) and Mid Ulster in Northern Ireland (70.0 per cent). These areas are also among those with the highest proportions of young people under 16 years of age.

Ethnic diversity – The majority of the constituencies that recorded the highest proportions of their population belonging to an ethnic group other than white are in London. There is also a cluster of constituencies in Birmingham in the West Midlands with high proportions. Constituencies in Leicester in the East Midlands and in Bradford in Yorkshire and the Humber also have high percentages.

The constituencies with the highest proportions of the population of an ethnic group other than white are East Ham in London (66.3 per cent), Birmingham Ladywood (64.9 per cent), Birmingham Sparkbrook and Small Heath (64.8 per cent), Brent South in London (64.6 per cent) and West Ham in London (60.2 per cent).

The constituencies that registered the lowest percentage of population of an ethnic group other than white are predominantly in the rural areas of Scotland and the borders, and Northern Ireland. These constituencies are Newry and Armagh in Northern Ireland (0.3 per cent), West Tyrone in Northern Ireland and Galloway and Upper Nithsdale in South of Scotland (0.4 per cent). Constituencies with less than 0.5 per cent of their population belonging to an ethnic group other than white are Roxburgh and Berwickshire in South of Scotland, Penrith and The Border in the North West region, Berwick-upon-Tweed in the North East region and Mid Ulster, Fermanagh and South Tyrone, South Down and North Antrim, all in Northern Ireland.



Employment – The 10 constituencies with the highest percentage of employed people among the population aged 16 to 74 are all in the South East of England and all registered more than 70.5 per cent – Aldershot (73.0 per cent), Bracknell, Basingstoke, Banbury, Witney, North East Milton Keynes, North West Hampshire, Wokingham, Newbury and Wantage. (These figures do not include full time students who also work.)

The constituencies showing the lowest proportions on this measurement of employment are concentrated in major urban areas – the lowest is in Liverpool Riverside with 35.8 per cent. Of the 25 constituencies that registered the lowest levels of employment, Glasgow accounts for four, Manchester for three, Liverpool for three, Birmingham for two, Belfast for two and London for two. Other major centres represented are Sheffield, Swansea, Middlesbrough, Newcastle upon Tyne, Dundee, Nottingham and Bradford.

Travel to work by Public Transport (Underground, Metro, light rail, tram, train, bus, minibus or coach) – Unsurprisingly the 25 constituencies with the highest rates of employed people aged 16 to 74 travelling to work by public transport are in London, the highest being in Vauxhall in Central London with 60.1 per cent.

The lowest proportions were found in Brecon and Radnorshire in Wales (1.4 per cent), North Cornwall in the South West, Montgomeryshire in Wales, Wells in the South West, Fermanagh and South Tyrone, Louth and Horncastle in East Midlands and Ludlow in West Midlands (all less than 2.3 per cent). Of the 25 constituencies that experienced the lowest rates of travel to work by public transport nine are in the South West (six in Dorset), four in Wales and three in West Midlands.

Use of a car or van – Some 18 of the 25 constituencies with households having the highest rates of car or van use are in the South East, mainly located to the west and south of London. The constituency with the highest percentage of households with the use of a car or van is Wokingham in the South East with 90.8 per cent. However, the North East Scotland constituency of West Aberdeenshire and Kincardine is the sixteenth highest (87.2 per cent) and nineteenth is Mid Dorset and North Poole in the South West (87.1 per cent).



The constituencies with the lowest proportions of households having access to a car or van are in urban centres – 13 in Inner London and six in Glasgow. These coincide with some constituencies found to be high users of public transport to travel to work and others with high rates of unemployment.

Owner occupiers – The constituencies with the highest percentage of households which are owner occupied are in England – Rayleigh (88.6 per cent), Castle Point with (88.5 per cent) both in the East of England, Cheadle in the North West (87.6 per cent), Charnwood in East Midlands (86.1 per cent), Fareham in the South East (85.8) and Solihull in West Midlands and Blaby in East Midlands (both 85.6 per cent).

The constituency with the lowest proportion of owner occupiers is Camberwell and Peckham in London with 23.2 per cent. The majority (16) of the 25 constituencies with the lowest proportions of owner occupied households are situated in Inner London. The other nine constituencies are in the other urban centres of Sheffield, Birmingham, Glasgow, Leeds, Liverpool and Manchester.

One person households – Urban areas tend to have the highest proportions of one person households – London and Glasgow in particular. The constituencies with the highest proportions of one person households are Cities of London and Westminster (54.1 per cent), Kensington and Chelsea (50.5 per cent), Glasgow Kelvin, Aberdeen Central, Glasgow Shettleston, Glasgow Govan, Holborn and St Pancras in London, Manchester Central and Liverpool Riverside (all greater than 46.0 per cent).

The lowest proportions of one person households are in Mid Ulster (22.0 per cent), Buckingham in the South East (22.3 per cent), Blaby (22.9 per cent), Wokingham in the South East, Eddisbury in the North West and Tamworth in West Midlands (all 23.0 per cent).



Lone parent households – Urban areas also tend to have the highest proportions of lone parent households. The constituencies showing the highest percentage of lone parent households are Belfast West (25.1 per cent), Glasgow Baillieston, Belfast North, Liverpool West Derby, Liverpool Walton, Bootle in the North West, Birmingham Ladywood, Glasgow Pollok, Foyle, Camberwell and Peckham and Birkenhead in the North West (all over 17.2 per cent).

Of the 25 constituencies with the lowest proportions of lone parent households, 11 are in the South East region, clustered to the south and west of London. The lowest proportions of lone parent households are in Kensington and Chelsea at 5.2 per cent, Cities of London and Westminster, Sheffield Hallam (5.7 per cent) and South East Cambridgeshire in the East of England (5.8 per cent).

Pensioner only households – all 25 constituencies with the highest proportions of households comprising only pensioners are on the coast! Of these 25 constituencies 10 are in the South East and a further seven in the South West. The highest proportions of pensioner only households are in Christchurch in the South East (40.8 per cent), East Devon in the South West, Harwich in East of England (39.6 per cent), New Forest West (38.7 per cent) and Bexhill and Battle both in the South East (38.7 per cent).

The 25 constituencies with the lowest proportions of pensioner only households are mainly in London – Lewisham Deptford (11.4 per cent), Vauxhall (12.5 per cent), Battersea, and Poplar and Canning Town (both 12.8 per cent). Pensioner only households also made up less than 14 per cent of households in Streatham, Islington North, Tooting, Tottenham and Hackney North and Stoke Newington.



BACKGROUND NOTES

1. Key statistics for parliamentary constituencies in Northern Ireland and Scotland have previously been released. Contact the General Register Office, Scotland (Garnett Compton: 0131 314 4298) and the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (Ann Williamson: 02890 527374).
2. Key statistics for National Assembly for Wales constituencies which have the same boundaries as the UK parliamentary constituencies were published on 3 April 2003.
3. Details of the policy governing the release of new data are available from the press office.
4. National Statistics are produced to high professional standards set out in the National Statistics Code of Practice. They undergo regular quality assurance reviews to ensure that they meet customer needs. They are produced free from any political interference. © Crown copyright 2003.